Indications for Use of Antihypertensive Drugs

- 1. Significant hypertension
 - Adolescents >90 mm Hg DBP
 - Infants >80 mm Hg DBP
 - Children >86 mm Hg DBP
- 2. Evidence of target organ damage
- 3. Symptoms or signs related to elevated blood pressure

Source: Second Task Force Report, 1987

Treatment: Pharmacologic Therapy

- Follow Second Task Force Report recommendations plus new classes of drugs.
- Secondary hypertension due to renal disease or diabetic nephropathy requires BP control (<90th percentile) for renal protection.

Source: Second Task Force Report, 1987.

Pharmacologic Treatment: Therapeutic Goals

- Reduce BP to below 95th percentile.
- Choose medication with minimal side effects.
- Use the least amount of drug necessary to reduce blood pressure effectively.
- Strive for high degree of patient adherence.

Source: Second Task Force Report, 1987.

Treatment: Nonpharmacologic Therapy

 Recommended as initial treatment for children with high-normal BP (90th to 95th percentile)

Treatment: Nonpharmacologic Therapy

- Weight reduction
- Increased physical activity
- Dietary Interventions
 - Moderate reduction of sodium intake
 - Increased intake of fruits and vegetables

Public Health Considerations in Addition to BP Monitoring

- Emphasize benefits of proper nutrition.
- Encourage physical activity.
- Discourage use of tobacco.